



Executive summary

Dell EMC CloudIQ streamlined the user experience in five cloud-based storage preventative management tasks

Compared to HPE InfoSight with an HPE Primera array, CloudIQ with a Dell EMC Unity array let us identify potential issues and troubleshoot problems in less time and fewer steps

Modern companies require effective IT operations to succeed, and managing storage is an essential component of keeping business-critical applications running smoothly. When storage admins can anticipate problems before they occur, they can address them proactively to maintain the integrity of storage systems and maximize uptime. However, monitoring storage capacity and performance to identify potential issues can require a great deal of time and energy. This is especially true in environments that include a variety of storage solutions—possibly across multiple locations—each with its own management tool.

At Principled Technologies, we examined two software platforms that aim to ease this administrative burden by collecting and analyzing data: Dell EMC™ CloudIQ with a Dell EMC Unity™ array and HPE InfoSight with an HPE Primera array. We used each platform to carry out scenarios involving identifying potential issues and troubleshooting performance. Dell EMC CloudIQ streamlined the tasks, requiring less time and fewer steps than HPE InfoSight did.

We also evaluated the CloudIQ mobile app, which lets storage admins monitor resource utilization, storage health, and performance via their mobile devices. This can lead to speedier identification and resolution of problems.



Ease administrative burdens
42X faster to identify reclaimable storage



Simplify maintenance and troubleshooting
10X faster to predict future storage capacity consumption



Identify potential issues
Discover VMs with high resource utilization, storage performance anomalies, and reclaimable storage

Whenever possible, storage admins try to anticipate problems before they occur. We tested two software platforms that collect and analyze data:

- Dell EMC CloudIQ on a Dell EMC Unity array
- HPE InfoSight on an HPE Primera array

In the following two scenarios, both CloudIQ and InfoSight provided the information we sought, though using CloudIQ was much faster, requiring only a glance at the overview screen.* (See our [full report](#) for complete timing and steps results.)



Assessing capacity approaching full

▶ CloudIQ displayed capacity forecast information on the overview landing page, so our admin needed only a moment to glance at it. This was **10x faster** than with HPE InfoSight, which required 11 seconds and five steps to locate the capacity forecasting trendline.



Investigating a host that is no longer non-highly available

▶ CloudIQ displayed high availability (HA) information on the overview page and specified which host lost HA. This was **16x faster** than with HPE InfoSight, which required 17 seconds and using a second tool to identify the impacted host.

In the following three scenarios, HPE InfoSight had no feature comparable to the one we used in CloudIQ, so we had to use another HPE tool, 3PAR StoreServ Management Console (SSMC), to assess virtual volume performance. (See our [full report](#) for complete timing and steps results.)



Assessing performance impact and anomaly detection

▶ CloudIQ proactively flags performance anomalies to let admins know when storage patterns deviate from the norm. This took **less than half the time** we needed using SSMC on the HPE Primera array.



Identifying "noisy neighbor" VMs and workloads

▶ CloudIQ indicates which storage objects are the most likely causing resource contention, letting us identify a noisy neighbor LUN in **58 percent** less time than we needed using SSMC on the HPE Primera array.



Identifying reclaimable storage opportunities

▶ The reclaimable storage feature in CloudIQ let us identify storage resources that were no longer needed by glancing at the overview screen,* making it **42x faster** than performing the task using SSMC on the HPE Primera array.

**For the scenarios where CloudIQ displays this information on the overview screen that appears immediately after logging in, we've used an estimate of 1 second to account for our administrator getting oriented and locating the information.*

Read the report at <http://facts.pt/m8a5u3v> ▶



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